

## New Explosive Found by British

During the last few years the military authorities in Great Britain have been dissatisfied with the explosive powders which they have been using, but now, after countless experiments, they have, it is said, discovered an explosive powder which is fully equal to those used in France and Germany.

Military experts, commenting on this discovery, maintain that any reverse which Great Britain has met with during recent years were in a large measure due to the fact that it used as explosive powders lyddite and cordite, which experience has proved to be inferior in many respects to the powders used by neighboring nations.

## How a Merchant Got His Umbrella

A Grand avenue merchant entered his store the other day with an umbrella in his hand and, sitting down on the nearest stool, burst into a roar of laughter. In response to queries as to the character of the joke the merchant said, after a few minutes of hilarity:

"Well, you know, when I started out in the rain I had no umbrella. I worried along the avenue and across the pontoon, debating whether I shouldn't invest, but was deterred by the thought that I already have three umbrellas kicking around somewhere. When I got over on East Water street I spied a man I presumed to be Dick Wilson. I don't believe you know Dick, but he is an old friend of mine. The man I thought to be Dick was carrying a fine silk umbrella. It's mine, now," he added fondly, as he gazed on the work of art he held in his hand.

"As soon as I saw the man I presumed to be Dick I was so overjoyed that I rushed on him from the rear and, slapping him hard on the back, exclaimed: 'Took here, old man, give me that umbrella!'

"The man turned and, to my amazement, I discovered that he was not Dick, but some one I had never seen before. I was covered with confusion and was about to apologize, when I observed that he was even more confused than I. He hastily closed the umbrella and pressed it into my hand with the remark:

"I beg your pardon; I don't know it was yours, and vanished around the corner, leaving me standing with open-mouthed astonishment."

After the outburst of merriment from the assembled clerks had subsided, the merchant said:

"Well, I've got a fine new umbrella anyway and they say the second thief is the best owner."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

### FAR TOO SOON.

Blindness—Lollita. I think it is about time you put baby in short clothes.

Mrs. Blindness—Oh, Emerson, it is altogether too soon! Why, it was only last week that I put spectacles on him.

## Went With Husband to Manila



Mrs. Richard Hooker, whose marriage as Miss Louise Condit was one of the social events of Washington, has gone with her young husband to the Philippines rather than be left behind. Mrs. Hooker is a niece of the late Justice Field, while Lieutenant Hooker is a nephew of Senator Stewart of Nevada. She passed through Honolulu quite recently on one of the transports.

# HARDSHIPS of the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES

In the April McClure's, Mr. Lincoln Steffens makes a vivid picture of the hardships of the President of the United States in his day's work. Mr. Steffens points out that the President is in many ways like the head of a great corporation, with 75,000,000 stockholders, and that he has powers and responsibilities commensurate with the magnitude of this business concern. With this in view, Mr. Steffens thinks a great number of duties the President is called on to perform, and which must certainly wear him out, are utterly trivial.

"He is called upon to settle not alone the rows among his important agents, but also the petty squabbles of employees no better than gang foremen and section bosses; he himself appoints all sorts of menials, investigating and choosing between the claims of applicants for places relatively about as important as those of janitors and mule-drivers. He receives and distributes much of the mail of his subordinates, handling some of it with his own hands, and acting upon no little of it. Moreover, this man thus burdened is required to custom to keep open house for all comers. He has to allow his ill-dressed stockholders to enter his own residence, walk curiously about his parlors; and those who are not satisfied may go into the room where he is talking to his business advisers, speak to him, shake him by the hand, while he is bound to listen to their troubles and congratulations and express sympathy or pleasure with them."

Mr. Steffens proceeds to describe the motley horde of callers that besiege the President until 1:30, many of them with no more important business than to shake hands, but most of them with an axe to grind and a Con-

gressman to introduce them.

At 3 o'clock the President takes a horseback ride—he found he could not take walks without being joined by some one who insists on talking politics or business. When he comes back it is more mail with the secretary, signing of commissions, and receiving of reports.

"The evening was spent talking politics and State policies with an editor, two Senators, and a well-known public man, all interested with him in politics. Toward the end of the session the late evening will probably be devoted to signing or vetoing bills. That was the time President Cleveland and President McKinley gave to such work, and Mr. Cleveland often stole time for strictly governmental business in the early mornings.

The Origin of the Abuse.

President Washington, with the highly developed sense of the dignity of his office, and of the uses which the Chief Magistrate might have in the democracy, received only people who had business with him, or were his social or personal friends, and at public functions he stood with one hand on his sword-hilt, the other behind his back. His methods were followed until Andrew Jackson swept them all away and opened his house to everybody. But in Jackson's time it was a serious matter to get to Washington from Indiana or Georgia, or even from New York, and those who came to the capital to see the President usually had some motive stronger than curiosity. The Civil War increased vastly business of all kinds at the White House, and afterwards the volume did not lessen, and the open-house policy of Jackson became more and more ridiculous.

Mr. Steffens points out that it is not only President Roosevelt that suffers, but that the interests of the people lose more than the man who happens to be their Chief Magistrate. One-third of Mr. Roosevelt's working day of ten hours is given to business worse than trivial. Moreover, this third is the best part of the day, from 10 to 2.

"There must be some remedy for the evil, and Washington is beginning to take the matter up seriously. A bill was introduced this session to provide a separate building for the executive officers and the President and his staff, which has increased from one secretary, two doormen, two furnace keepers, and a watchman, to one secretary, two assistant secretaries, nine clerks, six messengers, five messengers regularly employed, and eleven clerks and six messengers loaned to the White House by departments. It keeps one man and four clerks busy handling social invitations. The mail amounts to 1000 or 1200 letters a day. The executive building would relieve the President and his family of the inconvenience and the indignity of living 'over the shop'; it might spare them the visits of sightseers; there would be more room for home and social functions and for business, too; the President could get some fresh air and exercise passing between his house and office. The separation of the President's home from

his office seems to be inevitable, but it will not entirely solve the problem. Much more remains to be done.

Assistant President Needed.

"Senator Chandler suggests an assistant President, but that is coming gradually in the growing functions of the secretary to the President. Formerly called the private secretary, this official has always had much of the President's work to do, and some of his power; but the personalities of some of the recent secretaries, especially John Hay and Daniel S. Lamont, have enlarged the scope and importance of the position, till now, under Mr. Cortelyou, we hear it spoken of as 'tantamount to a seat in the Cabinet.' Mr. Cortelyou certainly performs a vast amount of important and delicate service, so that he is more truly an assistant to the President than a mere secretary. He has attacked the problem of an impossible amount of business for one man, and has reduced the mail that goes to Mr. Roosevelt personally to about one-hundredth of the whole. A large part of it is forwarded to departments without executive acknowledgment or even a record being taken of its receipt. The secretary himself conducts most of the correspondence, and the other Congressmen will tell you that they would rather put their business into the hands of the deliberate, painstaking, tactful secretary than in those of the overworked and hurried President."

Mr. Roosevelt Can Change It.

Mr. Steffens thinks that the one way to have the abuse done away with is for President Roosevelt to put his foot down and make a rule of closed doors. No one could accuse him of being weak or lazy, and when the politicians and sightseers and bridegrooms and committees of merchants complain, the people will uphold him.

Justice Baldwin's Views.

"The average American working man," using the term workingman to apply to all who earn their daily bread by employment, "eats too much and dresses too well, furnishes his home too lavishly, and in general spends a great deal more money than he ought to."

"The reason for that state of affairs is the universal desire on the part of all to be as well dressed, to live in as good style and be as comfortably and showily housed as the best of one's neighbors."

Such is the view of the economic status of the workingmen of America in the conception of Justice Simeon Eben Baldwin, LL.D., of the Supreme Court of Connecticut, and professor of American constitutional law and private international law in Yale University. A man of much learning, wide observation and many years of worldly experience is Judge Baldwin. He is deeply interested in his fellow men and has done much in a philanthropic and charitable way to make

## Do American Workmen Fare Too Well?

### Workingman Eats Too Well.

The workingman lives too well for his own good, says Judge Baldwin. In more detail, he explained:

"One way we spend money in America faster than in other countries is on our tables. The workingman, as well as the leisure man, eats too much. We eat a great deal of meat, more than any other country. The wealthy and poor eat too much and neither is any the healthier for it. On the other side of the Atlantic nobody thinks of having anything for breakfast except a cup of coffee and a little bread, possibly an egg; half of them not that much. They have two solid meals for dinner and supper."

"The doctors say, and I believe they are right, that two solid meals a day are enough for anybody and everybody. Of course, the man who works with his hands needs to eat more and heavier food than the man who works with his head only. But fruit and vegetables are the healthiest kinds of food, along with bread, for most men."

"Our ancestors, forty thousand years ago, more or less, probably lived in trees, dining off fruits and vegetables and what they could pick off the bushes. We know a good deal more than they did, but they were a good deal healthier and livelier than we are, I suspect, and if we ate more of the same fare we might be more like them in that respect."

"Then, as for our houses and furniture, Dr. Benjamin Franklin used to say that 'other people's eyes were what ruined us'; that we had fine clothes and fine furniture and fine houses because other people were looking at them. But if everybody was blind except ourselves we should live very differently."

Curtains Not for Workingmen.

"For instance, I wonder how many workingmen there are in any city earning \$2 a day who have two pairs of lace curtains in their front windows? By as many thousands as there are such cases are they too many. They keep out the light in the houses; they bother the children, who are always being told that they mustn't; they are always getting dirty and needing to be done up. They are all right for those who can afford luxuries and fine parlors, but the man with a family and small income better stay clear of them and the wives will be happier in the long run as well."

"The fact is, taking it through American society, it is the same story everywhere. The clerk with a salary of a thousand dollars a year wants to live as well as the clerk with an income of \$1500. The tradesman earning \$2500 wants as good a house as his neighbor whose profits reach \$2500 a year. The bank cashier wants to live as well as the president of the bank, and he in turn envies the manner of living of the president of the big insurance company, with ten times the amount of money to look after."

"There never was a country as rich as ours is, but we are not beginning to save as much as our grandfathers did in proportion to our means, nor even as much as did our fathers, and the rainy day is pretty sure to come for this country. We have not got through with panics and commercial crises. They come along in the United States with the regularity of clock work once or twice in a generation. The man in

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### Approved Methods of Modern Courtship

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From one hundred typical cases of accepted declarations of love the statistician obtained the following figures: Eighty-one of the one hundred men vowed that they could not live any longer without the adored ones, seventy-two held the ladies' hands in a tight grip, sixty kissed them on the lips, ten on the right hand, two on the tip of the nose and one on the shoulder; eighteen were so excited that they could hardly speak, twenty-six lost their eloquence through certain qualms of conscience, twelve said in deep chest tones, "Thank God," and eight frankly admitted that they were inexpressibly happy.

Of the ladies 87 per cent knew beforehand that the proposals were about to be made to them. Seventy of them sank, as though embarrassed, into the arms of the loved ones, and only four fell gently down on a chair or sofa. Fourteen covered their blushing faces with their hands, eight threw their arms passionately around the necks of the men, two said, "Please speak to mamma," and one sneered. One lady, who was 48 years old, protested vigorously against giving or receiving a kiss; another, who was about the same age, said, "Yes, you may kiss me, but you must do it in a gentlemanly manner."

WHAT ARE THESE "PARTIES?"

A "measuring party" will be given this evening at the residence of Prof. Chase, 22 Wood street for the benefit of Woodward Avenue Baptist Church.

A "spiderweb party" was much enjoyed last night at the residence of Mrs. J. H. Lindsay, which was given for the benefit of Immanuel Baptist Church. All those who attended were sorry when the time to leave arrived.

Just What She Needed.

Madge—The one thing that seems to please her most about her marriage is that it enables her to keep a carriage.

Marjorie—No wonder she's pleased. That girl never could get a seat in a street car.

Brotherly Advice.

War Lord—I believe I'll visit America myself.

Prince Boenthere—Don't do it. They would hustle you around so fast you wouldn't have a chance to stand on your dignity.

Stern Voice from Above—Has that young man left yet?

Miss Peachblow—Oh, he started for home an hour ago!

Stern Voice from Above—Well, you come upstairs as soon as he goes.—Washington Times.

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Of the ladies 87 per cent knew beforehand that the proposals were about to be made to them. Seventy of them sank, as though embarrassed, into the arms of the loved ones, and only four fell gently down on a chair or sofa. Fourteen covered their blushing faces with their hands, eight threw their arms passionately around the necks of the men, two said, "Please speak to mamma," and one sneered. One lady, who was 48 years old, protested vigorously against giving or receiving a kiss; another, who was about the same age, said, "Yes, you may kiss me, but you must do it in a gentlemanly manner."

WHAT ARE THESE "PARTIES?"

A "measuring party" will be given this evening at the residence of Prof. Chase, 22 Wood street for the benefit of Woodward Avenue Baptist Church.

A "spiderweb party" was much enjoyed last night at the residence of Mrs. J. H. Lindsay, which was given for the benefit of Immanuel Baptist Church. All those who attended were sorry when the time to leave arrived.

Just What She Needed.

Madge—The one thing that seems to please her most about her marriage is that it enables her to keep a carriage.

Marjorie